

First Class Joseph Pellicano from Pace, Florida, who is stationed at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, for the role that he played in saving the life of young Kaysin Willis.

On January 16, 2017, MA1 Pellicano, while en route to work at NAS Whiting Field, drove upon a two-car accident and stopped to render aid. A small child had been injured in the incident and upon realization that the child was unresponsive and had no vital signs, MA1 Pellicano began CPR on the child.

He was able to successfully resuscitate the child, and then assisted the medical team as they prepared the child for transport to the local children's hospital. The child's injuries were extensive, yet Kaysin was able to make a full recovery and is now home with his family. This would not have been possible without the quick thinking and selfless initiative that MA1 Pellicano demonstrated on this day.

I would like to extend my gratitude to MA1 Pellicano for his valiant efforts that resulted in saving this young child's life. His exceptional character is evidenced by his courageous and extraordinary actions.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, and a grateful community, I am privileged to recognize Master at Arms First Class Joseph Pellicano for his bravery and thank him for his service.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF DANIELLE BERMUDEZ

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Ms. Danielle Bermudez. Ms. Bermudez has been chosen as a Fulbright scholar, the first to ever be chosen from the University of California, Merced. Her accomplishment brings great pride to the Merced community and to all who have witnessed her hard work.

The idea behind the Fulbright Program began in 1945, when Senator J. William Fulbright introduced a bill to the United States Congress calling for the use of surplus war property in order to fund the 'promotion of international good will through the exchange of students in the fields of education, culture, and science.' President Harry S. Truman signed that bill into law in 1946 and Congress created the Fulbright Program. This international educational exchange program has fostered bilateral relationships, allowing both citizens and governments of other countries to work together with the United States and set joint priorities to shape the program's shared needs. Since the beginning of the program, there have been more than 360,000 Fulbright participants from the United States and other countries and Fulbright alumni from 14 countries have been awarded 57 Nobel prizes, 82 Pulitzer prizes, and 37 alumni have become heads of state or government.

The Fulbright program currently awards approximately 1,900 United States student grants annually in all fields of study. In March of 2017, Ms. Bermudez was selected as a Fulbright scholarship recipient. Ms. Bermudez is a fourth year doctoral student in the Interdisciplinary Humanities at the University of California, Merced. She was nominated for

Outstanding Student Leadership in 2015, 2016, and 2017. She has also demonstrated an exceptional academic and professional record, outstanding personal qualifications, and language preparation among many other qualifications to receive this award. Additionally, she served as an intern for California Assemblymember Adam Gray in 2014. Ms. Bermudez shows her dedication and hard work as the first student from the University of California, Merced to ever receive a Fulbright scholarship.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Ms. Danielle Bermudez for receiving this prestigious award. I know she will continue to encourage the Fulbright program's goals of promoting mutual understanding among nations through her engagement in her host community and look forward to hear what else she will accomplish next.

IN HONOR OF FREEDOM HIGH SCHOOL'S ODYSSEY OF THE MIND WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a group of students from Freedom High School, who recently won the Odyssey of the Mind World Championship on May 27, 2017. Leading up to this global competition in Michigan, the Freedom High School team won a Virginia Regional competition as well as the Virginia state championship, and these extraordinary achievements show how far dedication, hard work, and commitment to teamwork can take a group as they competed with some of the best student teams across the world.

The Odyssey of the Mind World Championship is a STEM-based scholastic competition in which students devise innovative solutions to challenges, such as assembling vehicles and integrating them into timed skits. These problems and programs allow students to convert their ideas and knowledge into tangible results in a stimulating and competitive atmosphere. During the world championship, each team participated in three competitions, including a spontaneous problem solving challenge, a style competition, and finally a long term problem, which the team has worked on for 6 to 7 months.

Under the leadership of Coaches Bill and Judy Munley, Freedom High School's championship winning team consisted of seniors Michael Munley, Aditi Shukla, Manisha Kusuma, Apeksha Pradhan and juniors Virginia Campbell, Zander Rodriguez, and Sarana Adhikari. While the team has qualified for 5 world competitions in the past 10 years, this is the only Loudoun County team to ever win the championship at the global level.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Freedom High School's Odyssey of the Mind team for winning the Odyssey of the Mind World Championship and representing Virginia's 10th Congressional District with such distinction. I wish Bill, Judy, and the entire team the best in their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF WE KAYAK GROSSE ILE ON THE DATE OF ITS SECOND ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE FLEET

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize WE Kayak Grosse Ile on the date of the organization's second annual Blessing of the Fleet. WE Kayak provides structured recreational activities accessible to all members of the Downriver community in the Grosse Ile's waterways.

Originally started in 2012, WE Kayak is a Grosse Ile-based organization that organizes weekly paddles available to the general public on the waterways in and around Grosse Ile, Michigan. The organization is active from Memorial Day through Labor Day, and has grown substantially from its initial group of six kayakers. Today, WE Kayak hosts several dozen members of the community each week to participate in exploring the waters while engaging with each other. The organization also hosts an annual Blessing of the Fleet, where WE Kayak, along with other members of the community, honor Kayakers who have passed and bless those who regularly go out on the water. This free community initiative has helped engage Grosse Ile residents while providing opportunities for physical recreation.

Initiatives like WE Kayak help bring the community together while allowing members to explore and appreciate the natural beauty around the Grosse Ile area. As the only organized public paddle on Grosse Ile, WE Kayak has played a key role in promoting physical activity and engagement while introducing new members of the organizations to a community of like-minded kayakers and nature enthusiasts. The group also serves as a forum for individuals to exchange information about other water sports events in the area, and it is my hope that WE Kayak continues to provide access opportunities for recreation for all individuals in the Grosse Ile area in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring WE Kayak on the date of the organization's second annual Blessing of the Fleet. WE Kayak has helped individuals explore Grosse Ile's waterways and foster a strong community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE COALINGA POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Coalinga Police Department, and honor the Ninetieth Anniversary of its founding.

In 1927, the Coalinga Police Department was established to serve and protect the City of Coalinga, California, located in the Pleasant Valley of Western Fresno County, and its 2,900 residents. At the time of its formation, the Department consisted of two officers and operated under Coalinga's first Police Chief,